Beedi Workers in Andhra Pradesh

1837. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are Government's plans to rehabilitate the thousands of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh being thrown out of employment;

(b) to what extent has this situation arisen due to Government's support of Anti-Beedi Legislation;

(c) whether Government have weighed the consequences of such legislation; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) There are no reports of beedi workers of Andhra Pradesh being thrown out of employment due to the proposed legislation which envisages ban on advertising, control over use and sale of tobacco products at certain places and warning about the harmful effects of tobacco on health. It is felt that it may not significantly affect the employment situation in beedi industry for the present.

Beedi Workers affected due to Anti-Beedi Legislation

1838. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beedi workers expected to be thrown out of employment due to proposed Anti-Beedi Legislation; and

(b) whether any State-wise organisations have been set up to identify and assist such unemployed beedi workers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) It is felt that the proposed legislation seeking mainly to ban advertising of tobacco products etc. may not significantly affect employment situation in beedi industry for the present.

(b) Does not arise.

Welfare of Beedi Workers

1839. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have the modal responsibility for the welfare of beedi workers all over the country;

(b) if so, whether there are large number of welfare schemes for beedi workers;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have made provision for providing unemployment financial assistance to lakhs of beedi workers for 1995-96; and

(d) the number of beedi workers who will be availing of this assistance due to ban on the sale of beedis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement showing the details of welfare schemes for beedi workers is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) There is no provision for providing un-employment financial assistance to beedi workers.

(d) Does not arise. However there is no proposal to ban on the sale of beedis.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Scheme
1	Static-cum-Mobile/Static Allopathic and Static Ayurvedic dispensaries for Beedi Workers.
2	Scheme for Reservation of Beds in T.B. Hospitals for Beedi Workers.
3	Scheme for Domiciliary Treatment of Beedi Workers.
4	Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Cancer.
5	Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Mental Diseases.
6	Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Workers) suffering from Leprosy.
7	Grant of Financial Assistance to Beedi workers for purchases of Spectacles.
8	Maternity Benefit Scheme for Female Beedi Workers.
9	Scheme for payment of Monetary Compensation for Sterilisation to Beedi Workers.
10	Re-imbursement of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Heart Diseases.
11	Re-imbursement of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Kidney Transplantation.
	Social Security Scheme
1	Group Insurance Scheme for Beedi Workers.
	Housing
1	Build Your Own House Scheme for Beedi Workers.
2	Housing Scheme for Economically Weaker Section of Beedi Workers.